

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and dark blue jeans, is walking away from the camera on a paved sidewalk. She has a black shoulder bag. The sidewalk is bordered by a road with a white crosswalk line and a red curb. In the background, there are trees with yellow and green leaves, a street sign for 'CLARK ST', and a traffic light. The scene is set in a residential area with houses visible in the distance.

6 EASY STEPS TO BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

WOULD YOU WANT TO BE YOUR NEIGHBOR?

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Living off-campus means joining the Evanston community. Your neighbors are not just your friends down the hall. They are families, professionals, and non-student Evanston residents, who keep very different hours and lifestyles than students. As a part of this community, it's important that you recog-

nize and abide by some basic responsibilities as a neighbor. NU OFF-CAMPUS LIFE has outlined some guidelines to build positive community relationships. We need your help in creating good and lasting neighborhood relations, abiding by city codes, and ensuring you have a great off-campus experience!

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

You've found the perfect apartment, roommate, and life is good! Consider this a wonderful opportunity to make new friends.

STEP ONE

- Introduce yourself. Even if you have lived there for a while, it's better late than never!
- Bring over cookies as welcome gift and/or have your neighbors over for dinner.
- Exchange contact information.

STAY IN TOUCH

Go past first introductions and establish ongoing communication with your neighbors.

- Learn more about your neighbors' lifestyles. Do they work early morning shifts? Do they have small kids who take afternoon naps? Being mindful of their schedules and helping neighbors to understand yours, can help mitigate problems before they start.

STEP TWO

- Discuss concerns with your neighbors as soon as they arise and before they escalate into larger issues. If you need help with a conflict, contact NU Off-Campus Life.
- Keep an eye out for each other. Encourage your neighbors to report any suspicious activity to you or police and volunteer to do the same.

Maintaining good relationships with your neighbors and keeping them informed of your plans shows respect and encourages neighbors to approach YOU with concerns, instead of immediately calling the police!

CONSIDER THOSE AROUND YOU

STEP THREE

- Observe quiet hours between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. At best, loud radios and parties may result in unhappy neighbors; at worst, the police may knock on your door.
- Keep in mind that noise travels farther than you think, so it's not just next door, but also across the street and behind the house where neighbors may hear you, i.e. visiting guests, car alarms or remote entry beeping.
- Be aware of shared walls! Something as seemingly innocent as watching a game or even regular volume conversation can be disruptive to your neighbors.
- Control your pets. Be respectful, keep your pet's noise under control and clean after your pets.

MAINTAIN YOUR HOME AND COMMUNITY!

STEP FOUR

- Keep your yard tidy, don't let garbage pile up and keep your sidewalk, curb and gutters clean. In addition to being a responsible neighbor, you will avoid a city fine by abiding by local ordinances.
- Check your lease to figure out who is responsible for what! Some of these tasks may be your responsibility; some may be your landlord's.
- Use recycling and trash bins appropriately and keep a lid on it.
- Clear snow from the sidewalk and work with your landlord to provide de-icing salt if needed.
- Maintain the inside too. You will save money by avoiding potential charges for damages or cleaning when moving out.

HOSTING A SOCIAL GATHERING

STEP FIVE

- Notify neighbors in advance when hosting a party.
- If your party extends beyond 10 p.m., move guests and festivities inside, turn down the music, and remind guests to come and go quietly.
- Call the police at 911 for help, if your party gets out of hand due to uninvited guests.
- Only serve alcohol to those who are at least 21.
- Keep official events on campus. Your residence is not a satellite house for your fraternity, sorority or student organization. Keep events on campus or at commercial rental facilities not to disturb your neighborhood.
- Use designated pick-up and drop-off points for rental buses or shuttles. Do not ask buses to stand idle in front of your residence.
- Clean up after your guests by 10 a.m. next day.

KNOW THE CODE AND STATE LAW!

STEP SIX

IL State “Social Host Law”

When alcohol is served, you have a greater right and responsibility as a host. Illinois law states that individuals can be arrested and face criminal charges for simply allowing or

permitting individuals under the age of 21 to drink alcohol at their residence or on their property - even if the individual did not directly supply or provide the underage person with alcohol.

TO VIEW CITY ORDINANCES FOR POSSIBLE CODE VIOLATIONS,
GO TO CITYOFEVANSTON.ORG

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

DIAL 9-1-1

for non-emergency calls - **dial 456 from any campus phone** or:

University Police - Evanston campus:
1201 Davis Street, Evanston,
847-491-3456

University Police - Chicago campus:
211 East Superior Street, Chicago
312-503-3456

**NU OFF-CAMPUS LIFE'S MISSION IS TO SERVE AS THE FIRST POINT
OF CONTACT FOR STUDENTS MOVING AND LIVING OFF-CAMPUS**

NU OFF-CAMPUS LIFE

601 University Pl., Rm. 41, Evanston, IL 60208
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WWW.NORTHWESTERN.EDU/OFFCAMPUS